

Recruit Quality Over Time
As Percent of Annual NPS Accessions
Official Recruiting Data Reported by the Services to OUSD (Personnel & Readiness/Military Personnel Policy/Accession Policy)

| High School Diploma Grads (HSDG) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977* | 1978* | 1979* | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000** | 2001** | 2002** | 2003** | 2004** |
| DoD | | 66 | 60 | 65 | 69 | 72 | 75 | 72 | 66 | 81 | 86 | 91 | 94 | 93 | 92 | 93 | 93 | 92 | 95 | 97 | 99 | 95 | 96 | 96 | 94 | 94 | 93 | 93 | 93 | 94 | 95 | 95 | |
| Army | | 58 | 50 | 57 | 58 | 61 | 73 | 64 | 52 | 80 | 86 | 88 | 91 | 91 | 91 | 91 | 93 | 90 | 95 | 98 | 100 | 95 | 95 | 96 | 95 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 91 | 91 | 92 | 92 | |
| Navy | | 71 | 69 | 74 | 78 | 75 | 73 | 74 | 74 | 76 | 79 | 91 | 93 | 89 | 85 | 91 | 91 | 90 | 92 | 96 | 98 | 94 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 90 | 90 | 92 | 94 | 94 | | |
| Marine Corp | | 45 | 46 | 47 | 63 | 72 | 70 | 73 | 70 | 80 | 85 | 92 | 95 | 97 | 98 | 98 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 98 | 99 | 99 | 97 | 95 | 96 | 96 | 96 | 95 | 96 | 97 | 98 | 97 | |
| Air Force | | 85 | 86 | 87 | 91 | 92 | 86 | 84 | 84 | 88 | 94 | 98 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | 99 | | |
| AFQT Category I-IIIA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977* | 1978* | 1979* | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000** | 2001** | 2002** | 2003** | 2004** |
| DoD | | 58 | 52 | 62 | 65 | 40 | 43 | 39 | 38 | 48 | 52 | 58 | 58 | 62 | 64 | 67 | 67 | 64 | 68 | 75 | 74 | 71 | 72 | 71 | 69 | 69 | 68 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 70 | 72 | 73 |
| Army | | 53 | 54 | 61 | 63 | 29 | 31 | 25 | 22 | 34 | 46 | 53 | 54 | 61 | 63 | 67 | 65 | 62 | 67 | 80 | 78 | 70 | 71 | 69 | 67 | 68 | 68 | 63 | 65 | 65 | 70 | 73 | 72 |
| Navy | | 61 | 60 | 61 | 58 | 47 | 52 | 49 | 51 | 55 | 56 | 61 | 60 | 61 | 58 | 61 | 61 | 57 | 62 | 66 | 68 | 70 | 68 | 66 | 66 | 64 | 65 | 64 | 63 | 65 | 66 | 70 | |
| Marine Corp | | 54 | 52 | 55 | 65 | 40 | 40 | 37 | 39 | 49 | 50 | 54 | 52 | 55 | 65 | 68 | 68 | 67 | 66 | 69 | 71 | 66 | 65 | 65 | 64 | 64 | 64 | 65 | 67 | 69 | 69 | | |
| Air Force | | 68 | 71 | 69 | 71 | 58 | 59 | 55 | 55 | 60 | 61 | 68 | 71 | 69 | 71 | 77 | 84 | 84 | 85 | 86 | 86 | 80 | 81 | 84 | 83 | 79 | 78 | 76 | 73 | 75 | 76 | 81 | 82 |
| "High Quality" (HSDG / I-IIIA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977* | 1978* | 1979* | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000** | 2001** | 2002** | 2003** | 2004** |
| DoD | | 43 | 39 | 45 | 49 | 27 | 33 | 29 | 35 | 36 | 45 | 52 | 53 | 56 | 57 | 60 | 61 | 58 | 64 | 72 | 74 | 67 | 68 | 67 | 65 | 63 | 63 | 59 | 57 | 59 | 62 | 65 | *** |
| Army | | 37 | 31 | 38 | 36 | 18 | 23 | 19 | 21 | 29 | 39 | 45 | 47 | 52 | 54 | 58 | 52 | 55 | 62 | 78 | 78 | 66 | 66 | 65 | 63 | 58 | 58 | 53 | 52 | 55 | 58 | 60 | *** |
| Navy | | 46 | 44 | 49 | 56 | 33 | 38 | 36 | 44 | 41 | 45 | 54 | 54 | 51 | 48 | 52 | 52 | 48 | 55 | 62 | 66 | 64 | 63 | 61 | 61 | 60 | 55 | 54 | 53 | 57 | 60 | *** | |
| Marine Corp | | 25 | 29 | 32 | 45 | 25 | 29 | 27 | 35 | 39 | 43 | 48 | 49 | 53 | 65 | 66 | 61 | 63 | 62 | 67 | 70 | 66 | 68 | 63 | 63 | 62 | 62 | 61 | 60 | 62 | 63 | 66 | *** |
| Air Force | | 59 | 59 | 63 | 73 | 42 | 48 | 43 | 56 | 51 | 56 | 66 | 70 | 69 | 71 | 76 | 82 | 82 | 85 | 85 | 79 | 80 | 83 | 82 | 78 | 77 | 75 | 72 | 74 | 76 | 80 | *** | |
| AFQT Category IV | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977* | 1978* | 1979* | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000** | 2001** | 2002** | 2003** | 2004** |
| DoD | | 14 | 10 | 6 | 5 | 32 | 28 | 33 | 35 | 21 | 15 | 11 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Army | | 17 | 18 | 10 | 7 | 47 | 43 | 50 | 56 | 35 | 22 | 15 | 13 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Navy | | 16 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 24 | 20 | 23 | 20 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 7 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | |
| Marine Corp | | 15 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 31 | 16 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | |
| Air Force | | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 13 | 10 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | |

* 1977-1981 ASVAB misnorming; DMDC Historical Data.

** Official Army HSDG performance excludes up to 4,000 participants in the GED+ pilot program. DoD HSDG figures also exclude up to 4,000 GED+ participants during these years.

*** "High Quality" figures not yet available for FY 2004.

Note: AFQT Percentile Groupings (Categories): I (93-99); II (65-92); IIIA (50-64); IIIB (31-49); IV (10-30)